

Serial No. : 10/707,409  
Applicants : Phillip J. Gilmore and Shenghong Yang  
Response to : Office Action Mailed 02/03/2006  
Page : 2

The listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1 and 28-59.

Please amend claims 3, 4, 5, 10, 12-14 and 17 and add new claims 60 and 61.

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Previously Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The extendable conveyor of claim ~~4~~ 4 including an operator panel at an outer end portion of said extendable section, said panel including an operator input device to selectively cause said control to at least partially extend said extendable section or to at least partially retract said extendable section.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The extendable conveyor of claim 3~~ An extendable conveyor, comprising:

a support structure;

an extendable section made up of a plurality of booms, said booms being extendable between a fully retracted position and a fully extended position, said extendable section supported in a cantilever fashion by said support structure;

a conveyor belt reeved among said booms thereby defining a conveying surface;

a drive operable to reversibly drive said conveyor belt in opposite directions;

an electromechanical actuator that is operative to impede movement of said belt with respect to said extendable section; and

a control, said control at least partially extending said extendable section by controlling said drive to operate said conveyor belt in one direction while controlling said electromechanical actuator to impede movement of the conveyor belt with respect to the

Serial No. : 10/707,409  
Applicants : Phillip J. Gilmore and Shenghong Yang  
Response to : Office Action Mailed 02/03/2006  
Page : 3

extendable section, said control at least partially retracting said extendable section by controlling said drive to operate said conveyor belt in an opposite direction while controlling said electromechanical actuator to impede movement of said conveyor belt with respect to said extendable section;

wherein said conveyor belt conveying articles by said control controlling said drive to operate said conveyor belt in one of said directions while controlling said electromechanical actuator to not substantially impede movement of said conveyor belt with respect to said extendable section;

wherein said electromechanical actuator is incorporated within an end pulley at an outermost one of said at least one boom.

5. (Currently Amended) The extendable conveyor of claim 4 including an electrical cable, said electrical cable extending from said control to said operator panel and said electromechanical actuator.

6. (Original) The extendable conveyor of claim 5 including a cable take-up assembly at said support for taking-up slack in said electrical cable.

7. (Original) The extendable conveyor of claim 6 wherein said cable take-up assembly comprises at least one stationary sheave, at least one moveable sheave and a biasing device, said biasing device biasing said sheaves apart, wherein said cable is reeved around said sheaves.

8. (Original) The extendable conveyor of claim 7 wherein said at least one stationary sheave comprises a plurality of stationary sheaves and wherein said at least one moveable sheave comprises a plurality of moveable sheaves.

9. (Previously Cancelled)

Serial No. : 10/707,409  
Applicants : Phillip J. Gilmore and Shenghong Yang  
Response to : Office Action Mailed 02/03/2006  
Page : 4

10. (Currently Amended) The extendable conveyor of claim 40\_4 wherein said plurality of booms nest within each other when said extendable section is fully retracted.

11. (Previously Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) The extendable conveyor of claim 4\_4 wherein said extendable section being bowed when in an extended position wherein a central portion of said conveying surface is above an imaginary straight line extending between opposite end portions of said conveying surface.

13. (Currently Amended) The extendable conveyor of claim 4\_4 including at least one friction device providing friction at said extendable section to resist retraction or extension of said extendable section when said control is not actuating said electromechanical actuator.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~The extendable conveyor of claim 40, further comprising:~~ An extendable conveyor, comprising:  
    a support structure;  
    an extendable section made up of a plurality of booms, said booms being extendable between a fully retracted position and a fully extended position, said extendable section supported in a cantilever fashion by said support structure;  
    a conveyor belt reeved among said booms thereby defining a conveying surface;  
    a drive at said support structure;  
    a braking pulley at an outermost one of said at least one boom, said braking pulley comprising a cylinder and a cylinder brake, said cylinder brake applying a braking force to said cylinder when actuated;  
    a conveyor belt reeved among said drive and said braking pulley thereby defining a conveying surface;

Serial No. : 10/707,409  
Applicants : Phillip J. Gilmore and Shenghong Yang  
Response to : Office Action Mailed 02/03/2006  
Page : 5

a control, said control at least partially extending said extendable section by controlling said drive to operate said conveyor belt in one direction while actuating said braking pulley, said control at least partially retracting said extendable section by controlling said drive to operate said conveyor belt in an opposite direction while actuating said braking pulley;

wherein said conveyor belt conveying articles by said control controlling said drive to operate said conveyor belt in one of said directions while deactuating said braking pulley.

15. (Original) The extendable conveyor of claim 14 wherein said braking pulley comprises an idler pulley.

16. (Original) The extendable conveyor of claim 14 wherein said braking pulley comprises a motorized pulley.

17. (Currently Amended) The extendable conveyor of claim 16 wherein said motorized ~~roller~~pulley comprises a cylinder, a drive motor within said cylinder a speed reducer between an output of said motor and said cylinder, and a cylinder brake.

18. – 21. (Previously Cancelled)

22. (Original) The extendable conveyor of claim 14 including at least one friction device providing friction at said extendable section to resist retraction or extension of said extendable section when said control is not actuating said cylinder brake.

23. (Original) The extendable conveyor of claim 14 including an operator panel at an outer end portion of said extendable section, said panel including an operator input device to selectively cause said control to at least partially extend said extendable section or to at least partially retract said extendable section.

Serial No. : 10/707,409  
Applicants : Phillip J. Gilmore and Shenghong Yang  
Response to : Office Action Mailed 02/03/2006  
Page : 6

24. (Original) The extendable conveyor of claim 23 including an electrical cable, said electrical cable extending from said control to said operator panel and said braking pulley.

25. (Original) The extendable conveyor of claim 24 including a cable take-up assembly at said support for taking up slack in said electrical cable.

26. (Original) The extendable conveyor of claim 25 wherein said cable take-up assembly comprises at least one stationary sheave, at least one moveable sheave and a biasing device, said biasing device biasing said sheaves apart, wherein said cable is reeved around said sheaves.

27. (Original) The extendable conveyor of claim 26 wherein said at least one stationary sheave comprises a plurality of stationary sheaves and wherein said at least one moveable sheave comprises a plurality of moveable sheaves.

28. – 59. (Cancelled)

60. (New) The extendable conveyor of claim 4 wherein at least one of said booms is made substantially from a unitary sheet of metal, said unitary sheet of metal forming a three-dimensional shape, said three-dimensional shape defining a combination of a horizontal belt supporting surface and support sides extending from said belt supporting surface, said three-dimensional shape further defining a pair of horizontal flanges extending inwardly from said support sides and an opening between said flanges, said belt supporting surface supporting a portion of said conveyor belt at said conveying surface.

61. (New) The extendable conveyor of claim 14 wherein at least one of said booms is made substantially from a unitary sheet of metal, said unitary sheet of metal forming a three-dimensional shape, said three-dimensional shape defining a combination of a horizontal belt supporting surface and support sides extending from said belt supporting surface, said three-

Serial No. : 10/707,409  
Applicants : Phillip J. Gilmore and Shenghong Yang  
Response to : Office Action Mailed 02/03/2006  
Page : 7

dimensional shape further defining a pair of horizontal flanges extending inwardly from said support sides and an opening between said flanges, said belt supporting surface supporting a portion of said conveyor belt at said conveying surface.